

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claims 5-10 and 16-18 are allowable. Claims 5-8, 16, and 17 have been cancelled and re-written in independent form, as new claims 45-48, 51 and 52, to include the features of their respective base claims. Original claims 9 and 10, which depended from allowable claim 8, have been cancelled and re-written as new claims 49 and 50 to depend from new claim 48. Similarly, allowable claim 18 has been cancelled and re-written as new claim 53 to depend from base claim 52. Therefore, allowance of claims 45-53 is warranted.

Original claims 24, 25, 31, and 33-44 have been cancelled and redrafted, respectively as new claims 54-68, so as to overcome the indefiniteness rejections applied thereto. Of these, claims 24, 31-36, 40, and 44 were re-written in independent form, as new claims 54, 56-60, 64, and 68, to include the features of their respective base claims. Claim 55 depends from claim 54, claims 61-63 depend from claim 60, and claims 65-67 depend from claim 64. Original claims 24, 25, 31, and 33-44 were not rejected over the prior art. Therefore, allowance of new claims 54-68 is warranted.

Claims 1-4, 11-15, 23, 26-30, and 32 have been cancelled.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: March 9, 2006
JEL/DWW/att

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